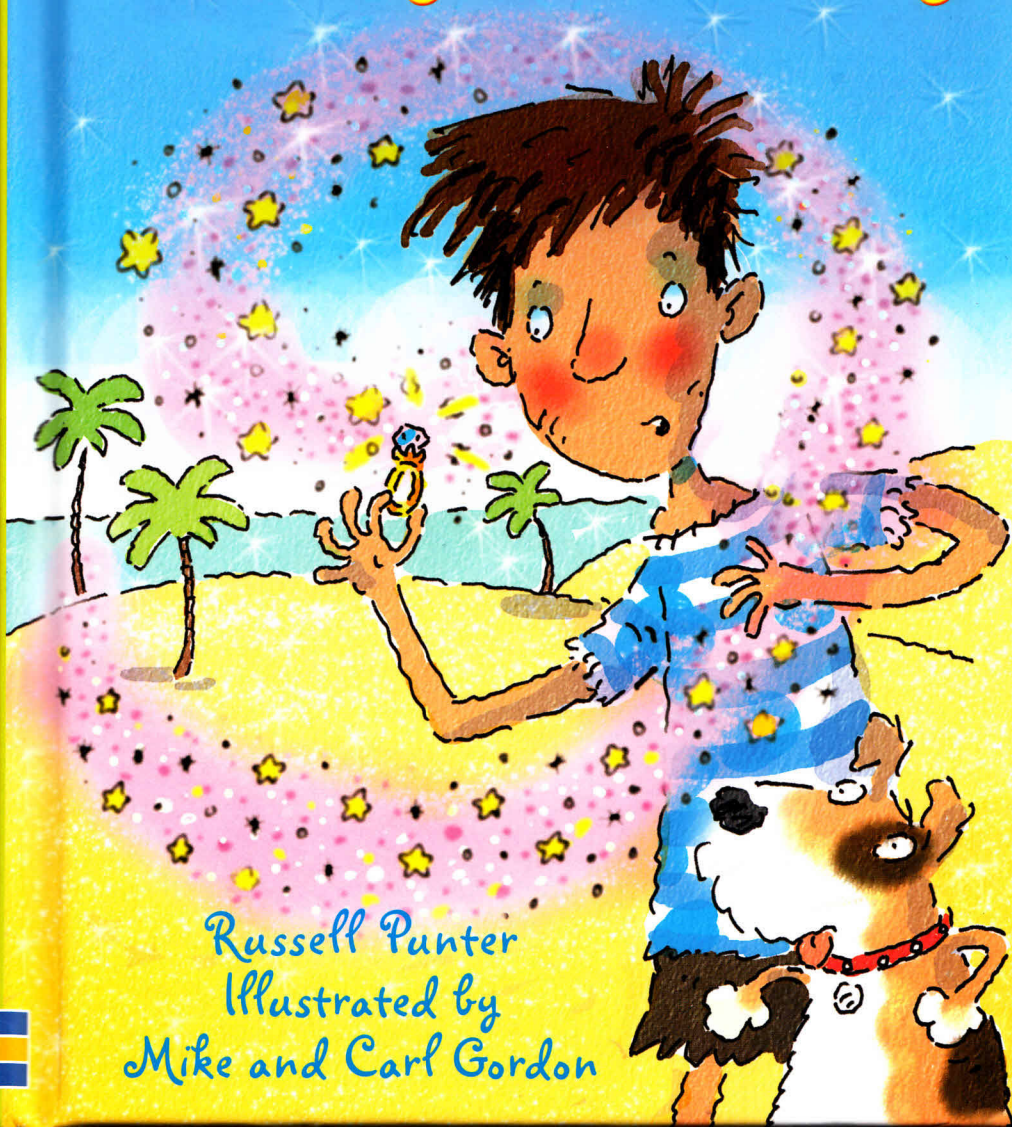


USBORNE VERY FIRST READING: BOOK 5



The Magic Ring



Russell Punter
Illustrated by
Mike and Carl Gordon

Usborne Very First Reading has been developed in consultation with literacy specialists Alison Kelly and Anne Washtell of Roehampton University, London.

Each book contains:

- a **story** that children will love to read
- fun **puzzles** to reinforce new skills
- **guidance notes** on reading with your child.

Further help and support for parents and teachers can be found on the Very First Reading website,
www.usborne.com/veryfirstreading

The Magic Ring



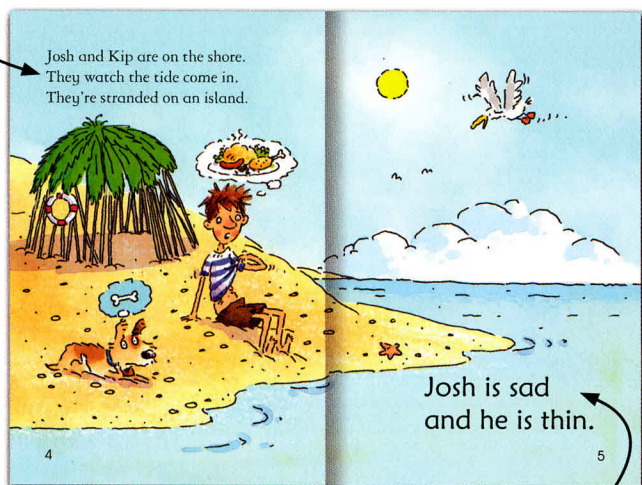
Written by Russell Punter

Illustrated by Mike and Carl Gordon

How this book works

The story of **The Magic Ring** has been written for you to read with your child. You take turns to read:

You read these words.



Your child reads these words.

You don't have to finish the story in one session. If your child is getting tired, put a marker in the page and come back to it later.

You can find out more about helping your child with this book, and with reading in general, on pages 30-31.

The Magic Ring



Turn the page to start the story.

Josh and Kip are on the shore.
They watch the tide come in.
They're stranded on an island.

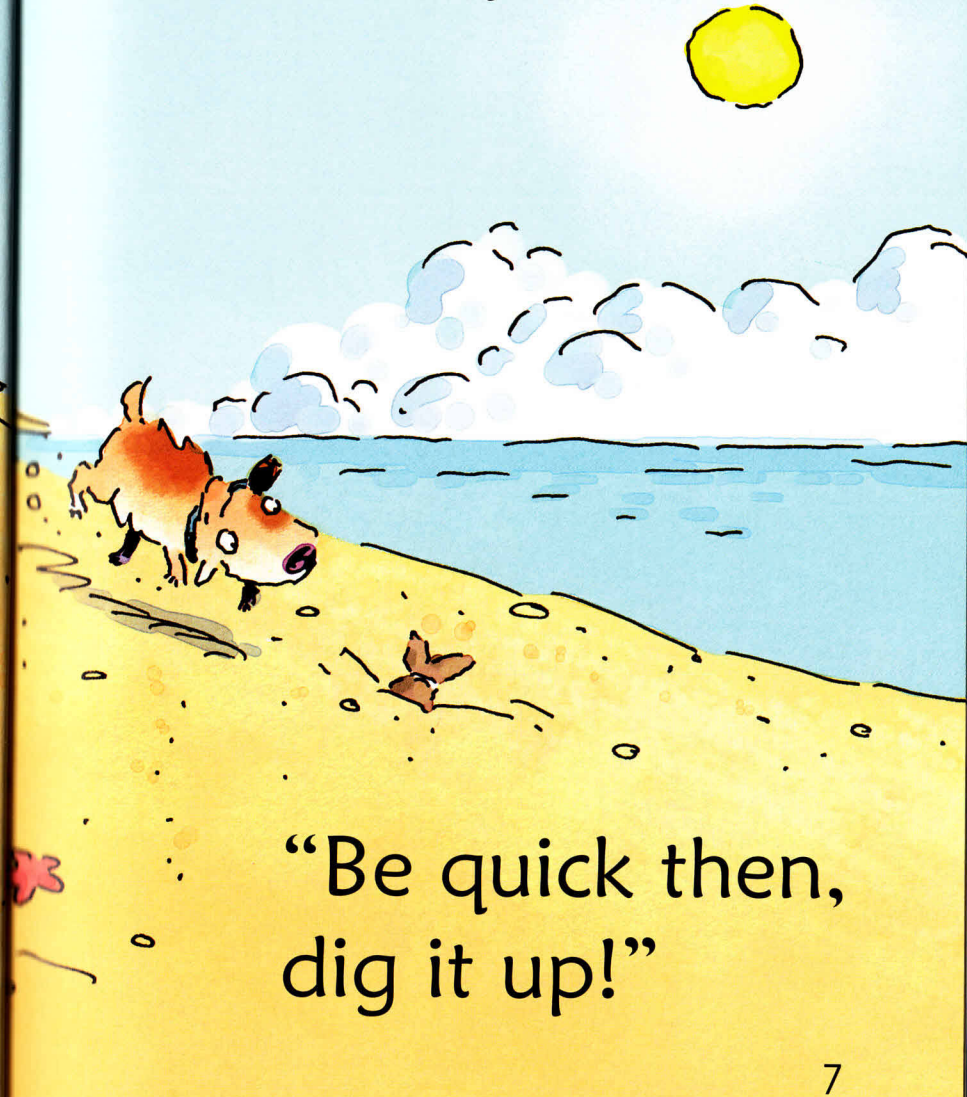


Josh is sad
and he is thin.

There's something lying in the sand.
Josh calls out to his pup.

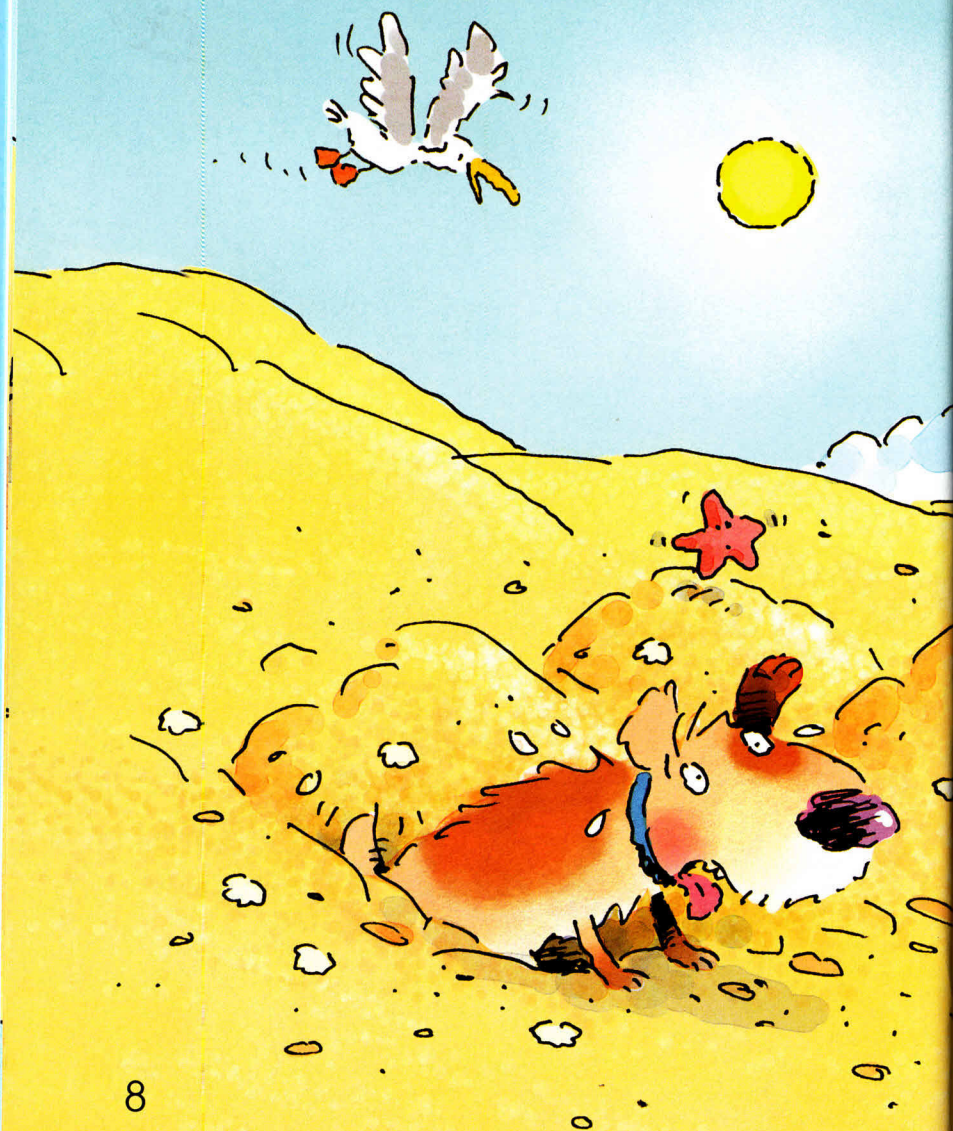


“Is that a big
fat fish, Kip?”



“Be quick then,
dig it up!”

They hope it will be good to eat.
Kip gives his tail a wag.



No such luck.
It is a ring.



Josh sighs, "It's very pretty..."



But I wish I
had a fish.

A flash of light, a cloud of stars —



A big fish
on a dish!

"Hooray, this ring is magic!"
Josh cheers and grins at Kip.



Chin up, Kip.
I am in luck.



I wish I had
a ship.

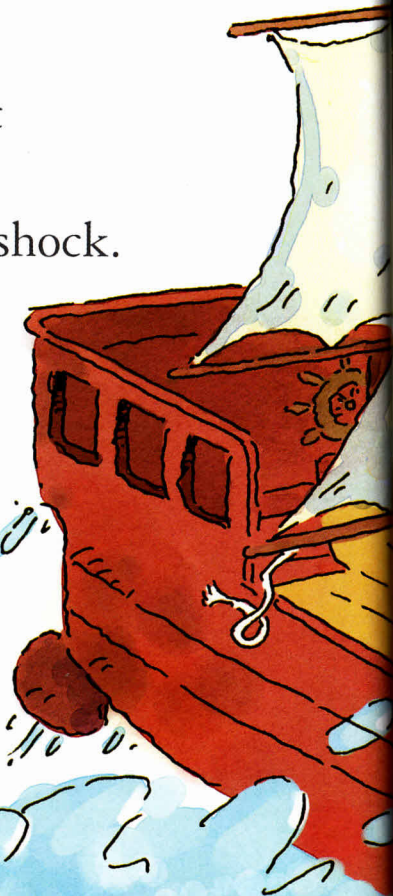
Now Josh and Kip are sailing home,
But soon the wind grows shrill.

"I wish I had a coat," says Josh.

I will get
a chill.



Then comes the most
enormous crash.
It gives them such a shock.
They slip and slide
along the deck.



The ship has
hit a rock.

The magic ring goes flying,
And Josh falls in the sea.

NO!



“Hop in quick, Kip.
Get it back for me!”

The ring is lost. The ship has sunk.
How gloomy can things get?
Then just in time, they hear a cry:



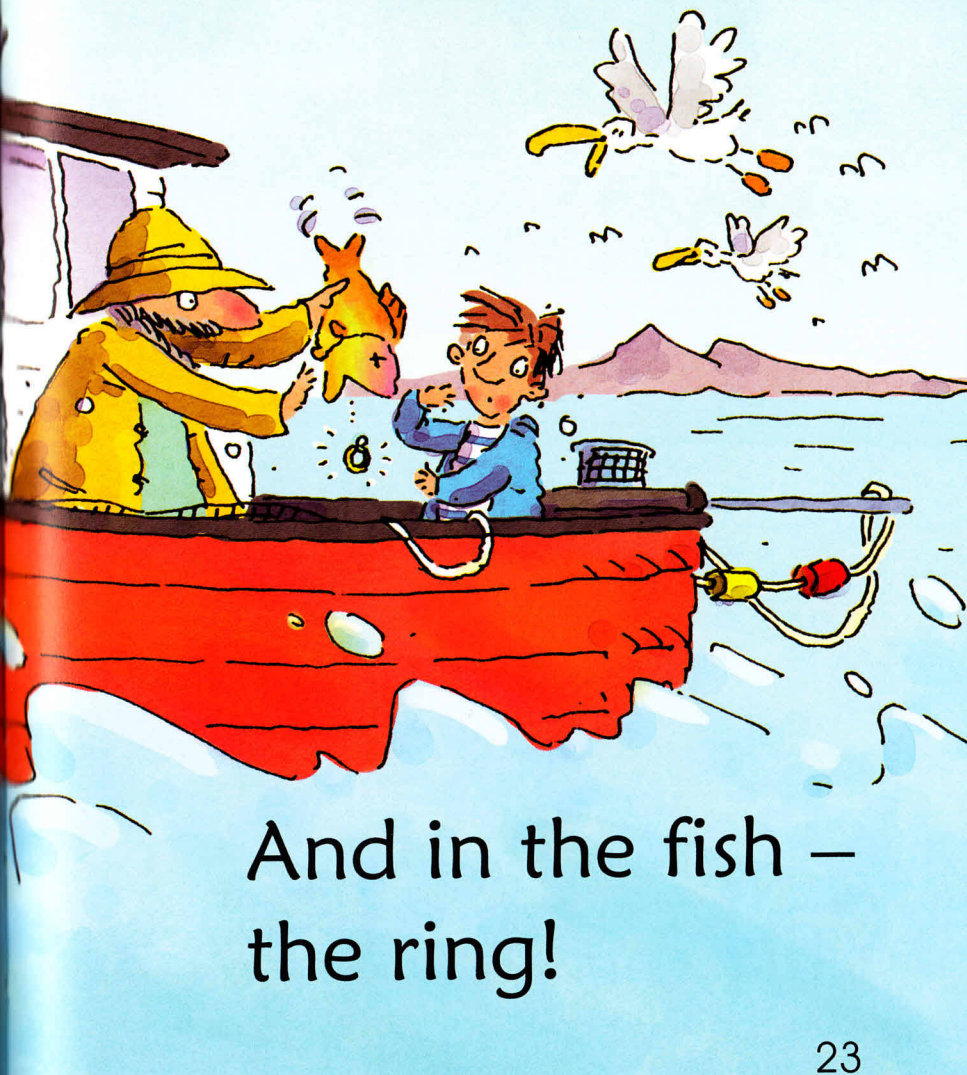
Hang on to
this net!



Now Josh and Kip are safe on board,
And here's a funny thing –



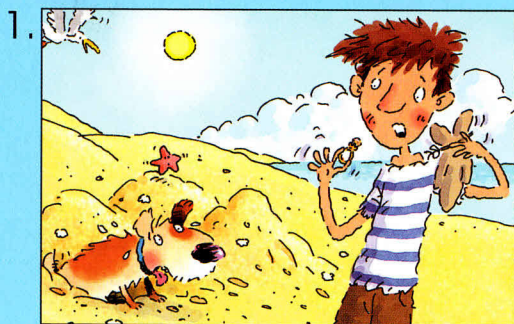
A fish is in the
net as well...



And in the fish –
the ring!

Puzzle 1

Look at the pictures together and try retelling the story.



You could talk about what you might wish for with a magic ring.

Puzzle 2

Match the speech bubbles to the pictures.

1.

I will get
a chill.

2.

Be quick then,
dig it up!

3.

A big fish on
a dish!

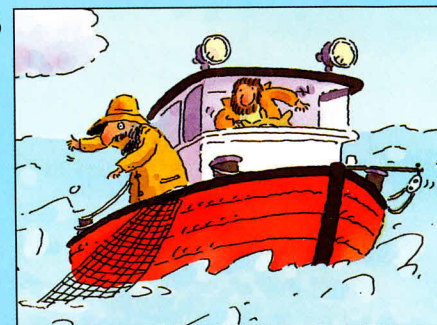
4.

Hang on to
this net!

A



B



C



D



Puzzle 3

Look at the picture and read the words below. Which five things are in the picture?



- a rock
- a ring
- a can
- a moth
- a ship
- a net
- a dish
- a fish
- a shell
- a dog

Answers to puzzles

Puzzle 1

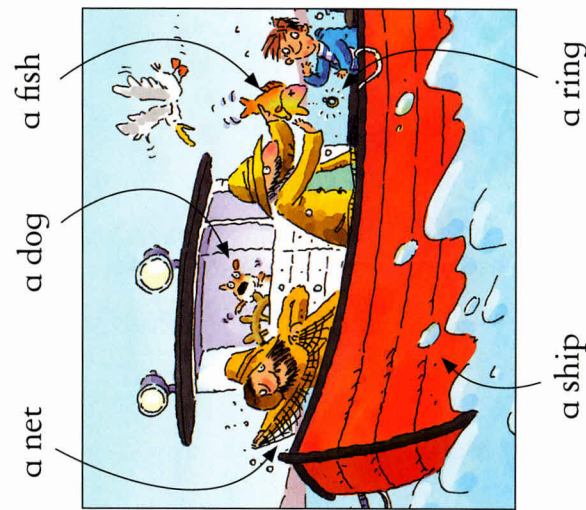
Use this puzzle to check that your child has understood the story, and have fun discussing what a magic ring might do.

If your child isn't sure what to say, try asking leading questions such as, "Who's this? What are they doing now?" (Of course, there is more than one possible answer.)

Puzzle 2

1. I will get a chill. - C
2. Be quick then, dig it up! - D
3. A big fish on a dish! - A
4. Hang on to this net! - B

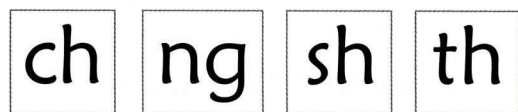
Puzzle 3



Guidance notes

Usborne Very First Reading is a series of books, specially developed for children who are learning to read. In the early books in the series, you and your child take turns to read, and your child steadily builds the knowledge and confidence to read alone.

The words for your child to read in **The Magic Ring** introduce these letter-combinations:



It's important for your child to recognize these combinations and their sounds, not just read the letters individually. Be aware that this represents a more challenging stage in their reading, too. Later books in the series gradually introduce more letter-combinations and spelling patterns, while reinforcing the ones your child already knows.

You'll find lots more information about the structure of the series, advice on helping your child with reading, extra practice activities and games on the Very First Reading website,* www.usborne.com/veryfirstreading

*US readers go to www.veryfirstreading.com



Some questions and answers

- **Why do I need to read with my child?**
Sharing stories and taking turns makes reading an enjoyable and fun activity for children. It also helps them to develop confidence and reading stamina, and to take part in an exciting story using very few words.
- **When is a good time to read?**
Choose a time when you are both relaxed, but not too tired, and there are no distractions. Only read for as long as your child wants to – you can always try again another day.
- **What if my child gets stuck?**
Don't simply read the problem word yourself, but prompt your child and try to find the right answer together. Similarly, if your child makes a mistake, go back and look at the word together. Don't forget to give plenty of praise and encouragement.
- **We've finished, now what do we do?**
It's a good idea to read the story several times to give your child more practice and confidence. Then you can try reading **Grizzly Bear Rock** at the same level or, when your child is ready, go on to Book 6 in the series.

Edited by Jenny Tyler, Lesley Sims
and Mairi Mackinnon



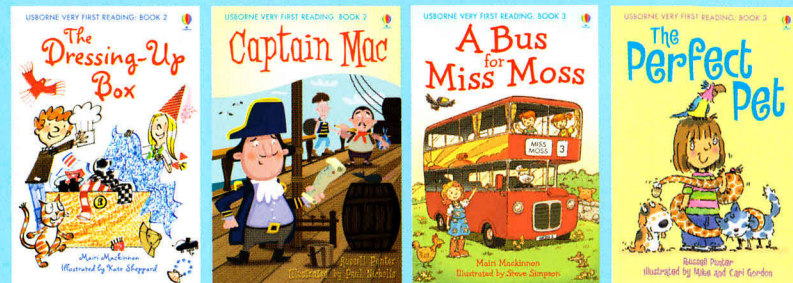
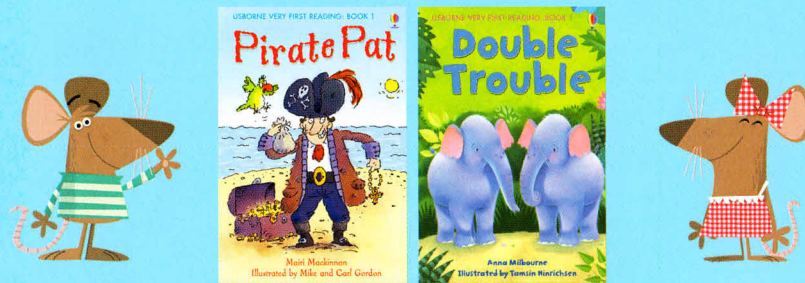
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USBORNE VERY FIRST READING

There are over thirty titles in the Usborne Very First Reading series, which has been specially developed to help children learn to read. Here are some of them.

To find out more about the structure of the series, go to
www.usborne.com/veryfirstreading





The Magic Ring

The Magic Ring is part of the **Usborne Very First Reading** series which has been specially developed to help children learn to read. Each book in the series introduces new letters or reading patterns, and reinforces material from previous books.

Designed for an adult and child to read together, the series combines lively rhyming stories with inspiring illustrations in order to build the skills and confidence that will encourage a lifelong enjoyment of reading.



Find out about all the titles available at
www.usborne.com

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